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Subject: The Morning Headlines from InsideEPA.com -- October 12, 2012

InsideEPA.com

EPA's New NCEA Chief Sees NAAQS As Model For Chemical Assessments
Citing Resource Limits, EPA Rejects GAO Advice To Improve ELG Reviews
Suit Over 'Step 3' GHG Permit Rule On Hold Pending Related Ruling Appeal
Romney Vow To Revoke EPA Vehicle GHG Regulation Faces Major Hurdles
Livestock Industry Eyes USDA Data To Justify 'Harm' For EPA RFS Waiver
Despite DOJ Offer, Suit On U.S. Facilities' Stormwater Fees Headed To Court

EPA Approves Texas' Air Permit Program
More Time For Fracking Study Comments
Sunstein Warns Of GOP Judicial Nominees
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Latest News

EPA's New NCEA Chief Sees NAAQS As Model For Chemical Assessments

Kenneth Olden, the new director of EPA's National Center for Environmental Assessment (NCEA), says the scientific review process for the agency's national ambient air quality standards (NAAQS) could serve as a model for his plan to overhaul the controversial Integrated Risk Information System (IRIS) assessments NCEA produces, including adopting the NAAQS' review process's focus on stakeholder input early in the review process.

Citing Resource Limits, EPA Rejects GAO Advice To Improve ELG Reviews

EPA is rejecting recommendations from the Government Accountability Office (GAO) that it consider whether appropriate treatment technologies are available for industrial wastewater at the beginning of its reviews of whether to craft or revise effluent limitation guidelines (ELGs), saying limited resources hinder the agency's ability to implement the advice.

Suit Over 'Step 3' GHG Permit Rule On Hold Pending Related Ruling Appeal

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit has agreed to put on hold industry's suit over EPA's "step 3" of its greenhouse gas (GHG) permit rule until the court decides whether to hear a related industry appeal of a recent ruling that broadly upheld EPA's GHG regulatory program, including the first step of the permit rule.

Romney Vow To Revoke EPA Vehicle GHG Regulation Faces Major Hurdles

GOP presidential candidate Mitt Romney's vow to scrap EPA's vehicle greenhouse gas (GHG) rule for model year 2017-2025 vehicles if he wins the November election faces major hurdles, sources say, including difficulty undoing the "strong" record justifying the rule, a divided Congress unlikely to overturn it and broad support for the rule.

Livestock Industry Eyes USDA Data To Justify 'Harm' For EPA RFS Waiver

Livestock industry groups are looking to recent and upcoming U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) data on meat and corn prices to bolster their claims of "economic harm" they say warrants EPA granting

their request for a waiver of the renewable fuel standard (RFS), which industry says is driving up costs for the sector.

Despite DOJ Offer, Suit On U.S. Facilities' Stormwater Fees Headed To Court

A closely watched Georgia case seeking to force a federal entity to pay previously assessed local stormwater fees is set to go to argument this month despite the Department of Justice's (DOJ) offer to settle the case in August, paving the way for a continued battle over whether local governments can collect fees assessed prior to a 2011 Clean Water Act (CWA) amendment on the issue.

Latest Blogs

EPA Approves Texas' Air Permit Program

EPA has granted final approval to a Texas air permitting program that gives industrial facilities the option of using site-wide emissions limits to ease their . . .

More Time For Fracking Study Comments

EPA is extending until next January its deadline for public comments on a peer review of its draft report concluding that a Wyoming oil and . . .

Sunstein Warns Of GOP Judicial Nominees

Cass Sunstein, who until recently led the White House regulatory review office for President Obama, is warning that if Gov. Mitt Romney (R) wins the . . .

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